

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11  
AGRE-00 AID-05 IO-14 ICA-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 OIC-02  
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3058  
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

UNCLAS ROME 9689

PASS USDA AND AID

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: FAO, OCON, WFC  
SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC) FOURTH SESSION

REF: (A) ROME 9386, (B) ROME 4565

1. FODAG INFORMED BY HARRY WALTERS, WFC SECRETARIAT, THAT WFC HAS COMPLETED CONSULTATIONS WITH AS MANY MEMBER COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE. SECRETARIAT VISITED 23 MEMBER COUNTRIES (ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, CUBA, FRANCE, GABON, FRG, GDR, GUATEMALA, INDONESIA, IVORY COAST, JAMAICA, JAPAN, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, USSR, US, VENEZUELA, AND YUGOSLAVIA) AND HAD EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS IN ROME WITH DENMARK, ITALY, AND NETHERLANDS. WALTERS DESCRIBED REACTIONS TO SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTS AS GENERALLY POSITIVE. WHEN PRESSED AS TO WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN NEGATIVE RESPONSES, WALTERS WOULD ONLY REPLY "NONE AS SUCH." HE ADDED. "SOME COUNTRIES LIKED CERTAIN PROPOSALS MORE THAN OTHERS."

2. SECRETARIAT RECEIVED INDICATION THAT AGRICULTURAL  
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MINISTERS WILL REPRESENT FOLLOWING COUNTRIES: AUSTRALIA, CANADA, CUBA, DENMARK, FRANCE, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NETHERLANDS, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, US. SECRETARIAT EXPECTS MINISTERS, BUT HAS NO FINAL CONFIRMATION, FROM GABON, GUATEMALA, JAMAICA, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA. VICE-MINISTERS EXPECTED TO REPRESENT GDR, JAPAN, POLAND, AND USSR. HEAD OF PLANNING EXPECTED TO ATTEND SESSION FOR

INDONESIA.

3. WALTERS SAID SEVERAL COUNTRIES INDICATED UNHAPPINESS WITH DEMISE OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON FOOD PRODUCTION AND INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (CGFPI) AND QUESTIONED MANNER IN WHICH IT WAS DISSOLVED. ALSO, SEVERAL COUNTRIES EXPRESSED DESIRE TO MAKE REGIONAL COOPERATION IN FOOD PRODUCTION A MAJOR ISSUE AT FIFTH SESSION OF WFC; WALTERS INDICATED SECRETARIAT WAS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THIS IDEA. HE SAID REDRAFT OF STATEMENT IN REFTEL A WILL SUGGEST MAJOR ISSUE AT FOURTH SESSION OF WFC SHOULD BE REVIEW OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE FIVE YEARS AGO, AS WELL AS REASSESSMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THAT CONFERENCE.

4. CONCERNING SITE OF WFC FIFTH SESSION, WALTERS SAYS SECRETARIAT IS WORKING ON ASSUMPTION SITE OF WILL BE NEIGERIA, AS INDICATED REFTEL B.GARDNER

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